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✓ NAN OF THE NORTH ✓

Photoplay in two reels ✓

✓ Episode #1 The Missail from Mars ✓

Story by Karl Coolidge ✓

Directed by Duke Werne ✓

✓ Author of the photoplay (under Sec.62)  
Arrow Film Corporation of the United States ✓

"NAN OF THE NORTH"

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SYNOPSIS

Episode #1

The Missil From Mars

The story opens with the closeup of a round school-room globe spinning about, and as it stops a pencil enters, touches a remote point of northwest Canada. This remote point on the globe is in reality a picturesque spot in the northern woods of Canada. In the distance there is a cabin from which two people appear, one being Gaspard Lesage a French Canadian trapper and the other his adopted daughter Nan. Gaspard leaves to cut some lumber while Nan goes to feed some bears.

Upon Nan's return to the cabin she finds waiting for her Bruce Vane, who is known as a ne're-do-well and an outcast from civilization. He proposes marriage to Nan and as she does not care particularly for him, she refuses. He becomes insistent so she abruptly goes inside. This thoroughly enrages Vane and he follows her into the cabin. He tries to force himself upon her but Gaspard returns and advises Bruce to leave Nan alone in the future.

At the headquarters of the Northwest Mounted Police, Dick Driscoll, an American soldier of fortune, has just been sworn to the force. He craves excitement - things being dull for him since the good old days of Chateau Thierry. His superior officer displays a map of the north region and points to a district that is encircled with a line of black.

Driscoll is told that he is to ascertain what has caused the region indicated to become known as "The Kingdom of Death". His superior informs him that the district is feared and avoided by all the natives living about it, and that it is said that every person who has entered has never returned. Furthermore, the commanding officer remarks:

"There is some foolish tradition that years ago a meteor from Mars fell in that region, crashing into fragments, and that these atoms have a power more potent than that of radium-- the power of invisibility!" Driscoll laughs at the theory and departs, promising to fully investigate the mysterious region.

In the very center of the region that has become known as "The Kingdom of Death" is the abode of Lun Soo, an Oriental. Externally, his home seems only a group of crude shacks, but inside is a furnishing of Oriental splendor, and Lun Soo, who had been made wealthy by a rich strike of gold, is veritably king of all he surveys. As he seats himself upon a throne of costly splendor, Yen, one of his slaves, appears and prostrates himself before him. In humble tones Yen states that not yet has he been able to discover any of the fragments of the lost meteor. Lun waves him away angrily, telling him that he has but ten more days to make good his search, and then as he soliloquizes, Lun mutters: "The power of invisibility--my nation would control the world -- and I would be its Emperor!"

Some days later Nan is accompanying Gaspard on a tour of his traps. They separate, agreeing to meet at a given point, Nan to look over one line of traps and Gaspard another.

Yen, the slave of Lun Soo, while frantically making a search for fragments of the lost meteor, comes to one of the hidden traps of Gaspard's and accidentally steps into it. Here Nan finds him, and succeeds in freeing



been

but he tells her it would have/ just as well had he died in the trap. But He will not explain to her the significance of this.

Nan approaches the place where she is to meet Gaspard, an old shack reputed to be haunted. From a distance she sees him enter the shack and hurries to meet him. But as she draws near a sudden noise stops her for the moment. Then, alarmed by the sounds she has heard, she hurries into the one room shack, only to find, to her utter amazement, that it is completely empty. She looks about swiftly, can find no trace whatsoever of her adopted father, until coming to the conclusion that he is only playing a practical joke on her -- that he must have slipped quietly out a back window -- she hurries on to her cabin.

Driscoll, by this time, has arrived in this region, which borders on the indefinite boundaries of "The Kingdom of Death". He comes to the tepee of Aloo, an ancient Indian witch doctor, and who is reputed to have definite knowledge of the meteor and its uncanny powers. Aloo offers to tell Driscoll his fortune, and Driscoll amusedly consents. The policeman is told that he must beware of a woman he is soon to meet, and as the witch doctor goes on to describe this woman, Driscoll pictures the woman he would like to meet, and into his mind creeps a blurred vision of Nan. His fortune finished, Driscoll quizzes Aloo concerning the mysterious kingdom beyond and is told that it is all true. Aloo bids Driscoll wait, that he will give him proof, and with this the old Indian steps into a little blanket tent in the middle of the tepee. Then, thrusting his hand out through an opening, Aloo bids Driscoll by this means to open the tent. Driscoll does so and is amazed to find the Indian gone. He dashes outside, looking about wonderingly, and when he steps inside again the witch doctor is there, calmly smoking. Puzzled greatly, but then deciding that he has only been the victim of some skilful trick, Driscoll goes away.

Nan comes to her cabin and is now thoroughly alarmed to find that Gaspard is not there. She finds on the table a note reading:

"Your father is alive, but for thirty days you must do all you are told or he must die. Look in the hollow tree by the stream".

Nan hastens to the hollow tree, a place where she has often playfully left messages for Gaspard. Reaching her hand down into the crevice she brings forth another note, or rather the photograph of a man.

Still trying to make herself believe that the whole thing is a prank of her foster father, Nan determines to go back to the old shack to further investigate. Night is coming on, and in the sky the storm clouds are gathering as she sets out.

Driscoll comes to the old shack and decides to spend the night there as it looks like rain. Placing his horse in the broken down one stall stable he unrolls his blankets and stretches out in a corner of the shack.

Yen, the slave, again enters the throne room of Lun Soo, prostrates himself, and declares feebly: "I have failed!" With a curt

and angry summons, Lun bids another slave prepare for the execution, and before the throne is placed a blackened block, upon which the slave is to be beheaded.

Darkness has fallen as Nan returns to the old shack, she enters cautiously, and as from the corner of the room she hears a slight noise she draws her gun in readiness. For Driscoll, seeing in the shack the dim figure, is quietly slipping out of his blankets and step by step he makes his way to the stub of the candle on the table.

At Lun Soo's the executioner's axe is about to fall upon Yen but suddenly Lun looks out a small window and starts in amazement. Across the sky is travelling a flaming meteor, and the executioner, as he also sees the phenomena, remains with his axe held aloft.

In the cabin Driscoll suddenly strikes a match, touches it to the stub of the candle, and steps back in amazement as he sees the very girl he has pictured to himself--covering him with a gun. While Nan sees standing before her the man she has been told to kill --to save her adopted father's life.

In a knot-hole the eye of a man is uncannily watching, and then, as Driscoll steps closer to Nan, as the wondering if it were not all a dream, from a crevice in the walls comes a long taloned hand, in a flash snuffs out the candle, sending the shack into darkness-- while outside and not far distant, the meteor crashes to earth with a violent blinding explosion, ending episode one.

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